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PCT

FORM PTO-1390 (Modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 0182.00003
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR) 09/806921
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/IB99/01573	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 23 September 1999	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 12 October 1998
TITLE OF INVENTION A WINDSCREEN WIPER		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Swanepoel et al.		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information: 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1). 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date. 5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210). 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made. 9. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). 10. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)). 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409). 12. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)). Items 13 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included: 13. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 14. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 15. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment. 16. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. 17. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification. 18. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 19. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail 20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: Postcard		

03 APR 2001

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR 1.53) 09, 806 921		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/IB99/01573		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 0182.00003	
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21. The following fees are submitted:

BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)) :			CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
<input type="checkbox"/> Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO	\$1,000.00			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO	\$860.00			
<input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO	\$710.00			
<input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)	\$690.00			
<input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4)	\$100.00			
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).				
		\$0.00		
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	
Total claims	12 - 20 =	0	x \$18.00	\$0.00
Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	x \$80.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable).			<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$860.00
Reduction of 1/2 for filing by small entity, if applicable. Verified Small Entity Statement must also be filed (Note 37 CFR 1.9, 1.27, 1.28) (check if applicable).			<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
SUBTOTAL =				\$860.00
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).			+	\$0.00
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$860.00
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) (check if applicable).			<input type="checkbox"/>	\$0.00
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$860.00
			Amount to be:	
			refunded	\$
			charged	\$

☒ A check in the amount of **\$860.00** to cover the above fees is enclosed.

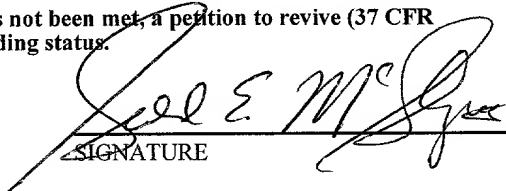
☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ to cover the above fees.
A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **02-2712** A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Gerald E. McGlynn, III
Bliss McGlynn, P.C.
2075 West Big Beaver Rd., Suite 600
Troy, MI 48084


SIGNATURE

Gerald E. McGlynn, III
NAME

33,737
REGISTRATION NUMBER

April 3, 2001
DATE

09/806921

JC08 Rec'd PCT/PTO 03 APR 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Swanepoel et al.)
)
Serial No.: Unknown)
)
Filing Date: April 2, 2001)
)
For: A WINDSCREEN WIPER)
_____)

**PRELIMINARY
AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1 of the amended specification submitted on September 7, 2000 in connection with the PCT application No. PCT/IB99/01573, after the title and before the first paragraph of the text of the specification, please insert the following headings:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

(1) Field of the Invention

On page 1 of the amended specification submitted on September 7, 2000 in connection with the PCT application No. PCT/IB99/01573, at line 12, please insert the following new heading:

(2) Description of the Related Art

On page 5 of the amended specification submitted on September 7, 2000 in connection with the PCT application No. PCT/IB99/01573, before the first paragraph, please insert the following new heading:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 6 of the application as originally filed, at line 133, please insert the following heading:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT(S)

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims submitted in the communication dated September 7, 2000 as follows:

3. (Amended) The coupler as claimed in claim 1, characterized therein that there are a pair of spaced spacing formations.

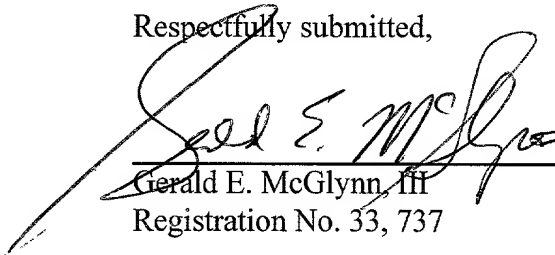
13. (New) The coupler as claimed in claim 2, characterized therein that there are a pair of spaced spacing formations.

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 were originally pending in the PCT application to which priority is claimed in this case. In a communication dated September 7, 2000, applicants submitted new pages 1-5 that included a reference to WO-A-98/19 899 in the background section of the application as well as new claims 1-12. By way of this Preliminary Amendment, the specification has been amended to conform to U.S. patent practice. In addition, claim 3 has been amended to eliminate its multi-dependency and new claim 13 has been added. New claim 13 includes the limitations set forth in claim 3 but is dependant upon claim 2. No new matter has been added.

The applicants respectfully submit that the claims clearly distinguish over the prior art and are therefore allowable. Accordingly, applicants respectfully solicit favorable action toward allowance of the claims pending in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerald E. McGlynn, III
Registration No. 33, 737

BLISS McGLYNN, P.C.
2075 W. Big Beaver, Suite 600
Troy, MI 48084
(248) 649-6090

Date: April 3, 2001
Attorney Docket No. 0182.00003

APPENDIX A

Version of Amendments to the Specification and Claims with Markings to Show the Changes Made

3. (Amended) The coupler as claimed in claim 1[or 2], characterized therein that there are a pair of spaced spacing formations.

13. (New) The coupler as claimed in claim 2, characterized therein that there are a pair of spaced spacing formations.

Rec'd PCT/PTO 25 JUN 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Swanepoel et al.)
)
Serial No.: Unknown)
)
Filing Date: April 2, 2001)
)
For: A WINDSCREEN WIPER)
_____)

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AMENDMENT

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Washington, DC 20231

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

- (1) Field of the Invention

On page 1 of the amended specification submitted on September 7, 2000 in connection with the PCT application No. PCT/IB99/01573, at line 12, please insert the following new heading:

- (2) Description of the Related Art

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims submitted in the communication dated September 7, 2000 as follows:

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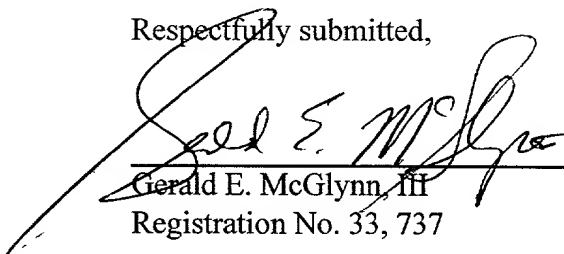
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Respectfully submitted,


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(248) 649-6090

Date: April 3, 2001
Attorney Docket No. 0182.00003

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Version of Amendments to the Specification and Claims with Markings to Show the Changes Made

3. (Amended) The coupler as claimed in claim 1[or 2], characterized therein that there are a pair of spaced spacing formations.

13. (New) The coupler as claimed in claim 2, characterized therein that there are a pair of spaced spacing formations.

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PCT/IB99/01573

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A WINDSCREEN WIPER

This invention relates to a windscreen wiper. More particularly, the

10 invention relates to a windscreen wiper assembly and to a coupler for a windscreen wiper assembly.

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WO-A-98/19 899 discloses a windscreen wiper assembly having a wiper arm, a windscreen wiper with a resiliently flexible elongate beam which is curved in a plane, and a coupler for coupling an end of the wiper arm to the wiper. However, with this prior art assembly the beam is tightly gripped and flexing movement of the beam in the coupler is inhibited. This impairs operation of the wiper.

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Thus, according to the invention there is provided a coupler for coupling an end of a wiper arm to a windscreen wiper having a resiliently flexible elongate beam which is curved in a plane, comprising

a support structure; and

a mounting means for mounting the support structure to the beam;

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characterized therein that the coupler has at least one spacing formation carried by the support structure, engageable in use with an upper surface of the beam, for spacing the upper surface of the beam a predetermined distance from the support structure, thereby to provide a space in which the beam can flex, in use.

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The invention extends to a windscreen wiper assembly which includes a
windscreen wiper having a resiliently flexible elongate beam which is curved in a
plane and a coupler in accordance with the invention engaged therewith.

At least one spacing formation may comprise a fulcrum formation which
permits, in use, bending movement of the beam about the formation in the plane
of curvature.

Preferably there may be a pair of spaced spacing formations.

The support structure may have an elongate, substantially planar base
with the spacing formations being defined on a bottom surface of the base. Each
spacing formation may comprise an elongate protrusion located transversely to the
base and, in use, transversely to the plane of curvature of the beam. Each
protrusion may have a rounded or sharpened edge to allow bending of the beam
thereabout.

The mounting means may comprise two pairs of spaced apart claws
which extend from the base. Each of the spacing formations may be proximate
or aligned with one of the pairs of claws.

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50 The spacing between the upper surface of the beam and the bottom surface of the support structure may be sufficient to permit flexing, in use, of the beam.

55 The spacing between the claws of each pair may be substantially equal to the width of the beam at that position in order to inhibit pivoting or twisting of the beam about its longitudinal axis and to impede relative lateral movement.

60 The beam may have a securing formation complementary to one of the pairs of claws for securing the support structure to the beam so that longitudinal movement of the beam relative to the coupler at that point is impeded. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that relative longitudinal movement will be permitted between the beam and the support structure at the pair of claws spaced from the securing formation.

65 The coupler may thus be mounted to the wiper such that longitudinal movement of the beam relative to a point on the coupler, rotation of the beam about its longitudinal axis and rotation of the longitudinal axis of the beam relative to the longitudinal axis of the arm (known as fish tailing) are substantially inhibited.

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The assembly may also include a connecting structure for pivotally connecting the end of the wiper arm to the wiper to allow pivotal movement of the

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wiper arm relative to the wiper in the plane of curvature. It will be appreciated that the connecting structure may form a part of the coupler or of the arm or a combination of both.

It will be appreciated that the wiper performs better with a coupler in accordance with the invention as the beam is able to flex about the spacing formations inside the coupler.

It will also be appreciated that the windscreen wiper assembly as described above significantly reduces the height required between a windscreen and a vehicle bonnet in order to improve wind flow over the vehicle and allow the windscreen wiper assembly and arm to be hidden below the vehicle bonnet.

It will be appreciated further that the invention has specific application to a low profile wiper and that the coupler is designed to minimise the distance or space between the bottom surface of the support structure and the upper surface of the beam whilst still providing sufficient space for the beam to flex. It will also be appreciated that the distance or space is dependent on the distance between the spacing formations and will accordingly be larger when the spacing formations are further apart to allow for bending movement of the wiper between the points of contact. A height dimension from a bottom edge of a rubber which is mounted to the beam of the wiper and the highest protrusion of the coupler may be less than 25 mm and preferably is less than 20 mm.

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The invention is now described, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which;

Figure 1 shows a schematic isometric view of a windscreen wiper assembly, in accordance with the invention, with the wiper shown in a straightened condition;

Figure 2 shows a partially exploded view of the assembly of Figure 1;

Figure 3 shows an enlarged view of part of the assembly of Figure 1;

Figure 4 shows a sectional end elevation of the assembly of Figure 3 taken along the line IV-IV in Figure 3.

Figure 5 shows a detailed view of part of a windscreen wiper which forms part of the assembly shown in Figure 1;

Figure 6 shows a schematic isometric view of a coupler for a windscreen wiper assembly, in accordance with another aspect of the invention;

AMENDED SHEET

130 Figure 7 shows a bottom view of the coupler of Figure 6;

Figure 8 shows a sectional side elevation of the coupler of Figure 7 taken along the line VIII-VIII in Figure 7.

135 In the drawings, a windscreen wiper assembly, in accordance with the invention, is generally designated by the reference numeral 10.

140 The assembly 10 includes a wiper arm 12, a windscreen wiper 14 and a coupler 16, generally indicated by reference numeral 16, for coupling an end of the wiper arm 12 to the wiper 14. The wiper 14 includes a resiliently flexible elongate beam 18 which is curved in a plane perpendicular to axis Z (as shown in Figure 1). A rubber wiping strip 20 is mounted to the beam 18.

145 Referring specifically to Figures 6 to 8, the coupler 16 comprises a support structure 23, having an elongate, substantially rectangular, planar base 22. A height dimension H between a bottom edge 21 of the rubber 20 and highest protrusion of the coupler 16, is preferably less than 25 mm. A mounting means in the form of two pairs of spaced apart claws 24.1 and 24.2 extend from the base 22 of the support structure 23. A pair of fulcrum formations in the form of elongate impressions 26.1 and 26.2 are located transversely to the base 22, each aligned with a corresponding pair of claws 24.1 and 24.2. Each impression 26.1 and 26.2 has a rounded bottom edge 28 as can be seen in Figures 7 and 8. The coupler 16 may be formed of a rigid synthetic plastics material or steel.

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A pair of support sides 30 extend substantially transversely to the base 22 of the support structure 23, with a pair of aligned openings 32 defined in the support sides 30.

Referring to Figures 1 to 3, the assembly 10 also includes a connecting structure 34 for pivotally connecting an end 36 of the wiper arm 12 to the wiper 14. The connecting structure 34 includes a substantially planar upper surface 38, with two substantially parallel sides 40 depending downwardly from the surface 38. The sides 40 are spaced a predetermined distance apart so that they fit snugly between the support sides 30 of the coupler 16, so as to prevent lateral movement and rotational movement about the Y axis between the longitudinal axis of the arm 12 and the beam 18. An aperture 42 is defined in each side 40, the apertures 42 being aligned to the openings 32 for receiving a transverse pivot pin 44 for pivotally connecting the coupler 16 to the wiper arm 12.

The assembly also includes a nose piece 46 which covers part of the coupler 16 and connecting structure 34.

The beam 18 is provided with a pair of indents 48 (Figure 5), which is complementary to one of the pairs of claws, for securing the coupler 16 to the beam 18 at that point so that longitudinal movement of the beam 18 relative to the coupler 16 is inhibited at that point.

In use, the connecting structure 34 is attached to the end 36 of the arm 12. The connecting structure 34 and the coupler 16 are connected to each other by

means of the pivot pin 44. The coupler 16 is positioned on the beam 18 so that one
180 of the pairs of claws 24.1 is aligned with the indents 48 on the beam 18, and distal
ends 50 of the claws 24 are folded over the beam 18, so that the rounded ends 28
of the fulcrum formations abut an upper surface 52 of the beam 18 as is shown in
Figure 4.

185 The pair of claws 24.1 which is aligned with the indents 48, secures the
beam 18 in position at that point so that longitudinal movement of the wiper 14
relative to the coupler 16 is restrained. The other pair of claws 24.2 are folded over
edges of the beam 18 but allows longitudinal movement of the wiper 14 relative to
the coupler 16 at that point.

190 In use, movement of the wiper assembly 10 relative to a windscreen causes
the wiper 14 to move in the plane of curvature as it straightens and bends to
accommodate various curvatures of the windscreen. Movement of the beam 14 in
the plane of curvature is allowed by the fulcrum formations.

195 The applicant believes that the advantages of the wiper assembly 10 as
described with reference to the drawings, are that it allows substantially unrestrained
movement of the wiper 14 in its plane of curvature and provides a low profile coupler
16 with its associated advantages. It will be appreciated that unrestrained beam
200 bending movement is conducive to optimal force distribution performance. The wiper
assembly also significantly reduces the height required between the windscreen and
the vehicle bonnet, thereby improving wind flow over the vehicle and allow the
windscreen wiper assembly and arm to be hidden below the vehicle bonnet.

CLAIMS:

1. A coupler (16) for coupling an end of a wiper arm (12) to a windscreen wiper
185 (14) having a resiliently flexible elongate beam (18) which is curved in a plane,
comprising

a support structure (23); and

a mounting means (24.1, 24.2) for mounting the support structure to the
beam;

190 characterized therein that the coupler has at least one spacing formation (26.1,
26.2) carried by the support structure, engageable in use with an upper surface of
the beam, for spacing the upper surface of the beam a predetermined distance from
the support structure.

195 2. The coupler as claimed in Claim 1, characterized therein that at least one
spacing formation comprises a fulcrum formation which permits, in use, bending
movement of the beam about the formation in the plane of curvature.

200 3. The coupler as claimed in Claim 1 or 2, characterized therein that there are a
pair of spaced spacing formations.

4. The coupler as claimed in Claim 3, characterized therein that the support
structure has an elongate, substantially planar base (22), with the spacing
formations being defined on a bottom surface of the base.

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205 5. The coupler as claimed in Claim 4, characterized therein that each spacing formation comprises an elongate protrusion located transversely to the base and, in use, transversely to the plane of curvature of the beam.

210 6. The coupler as claimed in Claim 4, characterized therein that the mounting means comprises two pairs of spaced apart claws (24.1, 24.2) which extend from the base.

215 7. The coupler as claimed in Claim 6, characterized therein that each of the spacing formations is aligned with one of the pairs of claws.

8. The coupler as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized therein that it has a connecting structure (34) for pivotal connection to the wiper arm.

220 9. A windscreen wiper assembly (10) which includes a windscreen wiper (14) having a resiliently flexible elongate beam (18) which is curved in a plane and a coupler (16) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims engaged therewith.

225 10. The windscreen wiper assembly as claimed in Claim 9, characterized therein that the spacing between the upper surface of the beam and the support structure is sufficient to permit flexing, in use, of the beam.

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11. The windscreen wiper assembly as claimed in Claim 9, in which the coupler is as claimed in Claim 6, and characterised therein that the spacing between the claws of each pair is substantially equal to the width of the beam at that position.

12. The windscreen wiper assembly as claimed in Claim 9, characterized therein that the beam has a securing formation (48) for securing the support structure to the beam in a manner to inhibit longitudinal movement of the beam relative to the coupler at that position.

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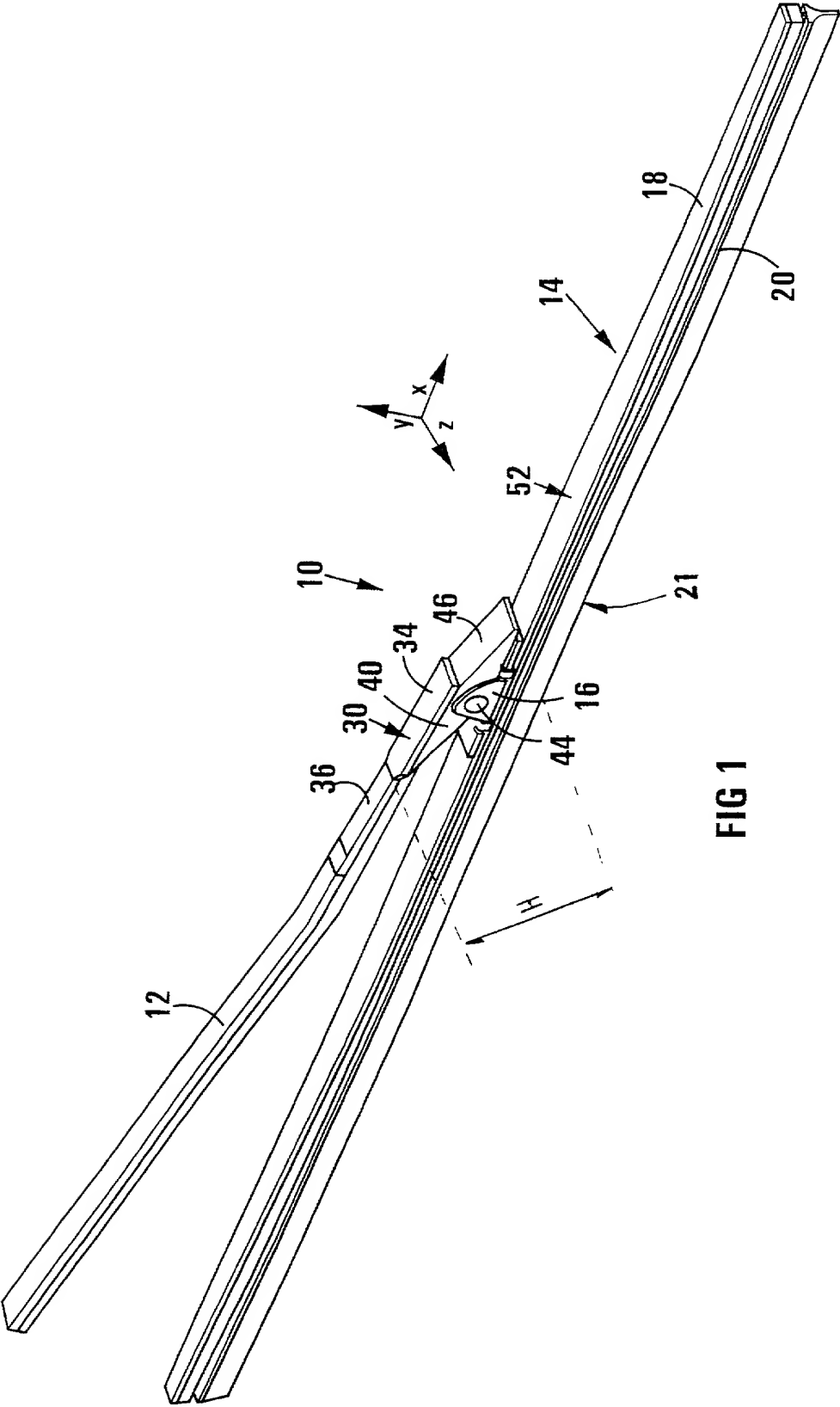


FIG 1

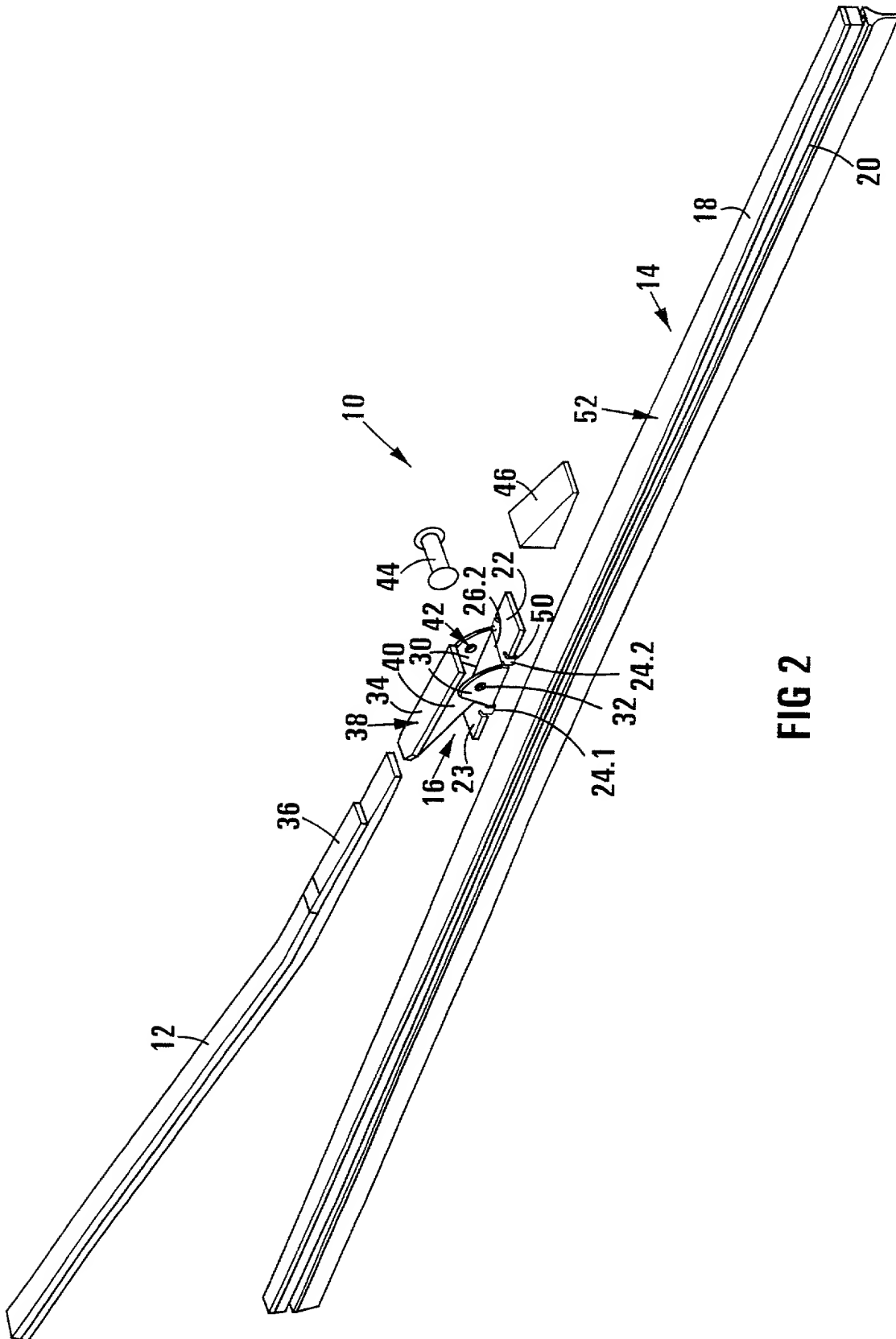


FIG 2

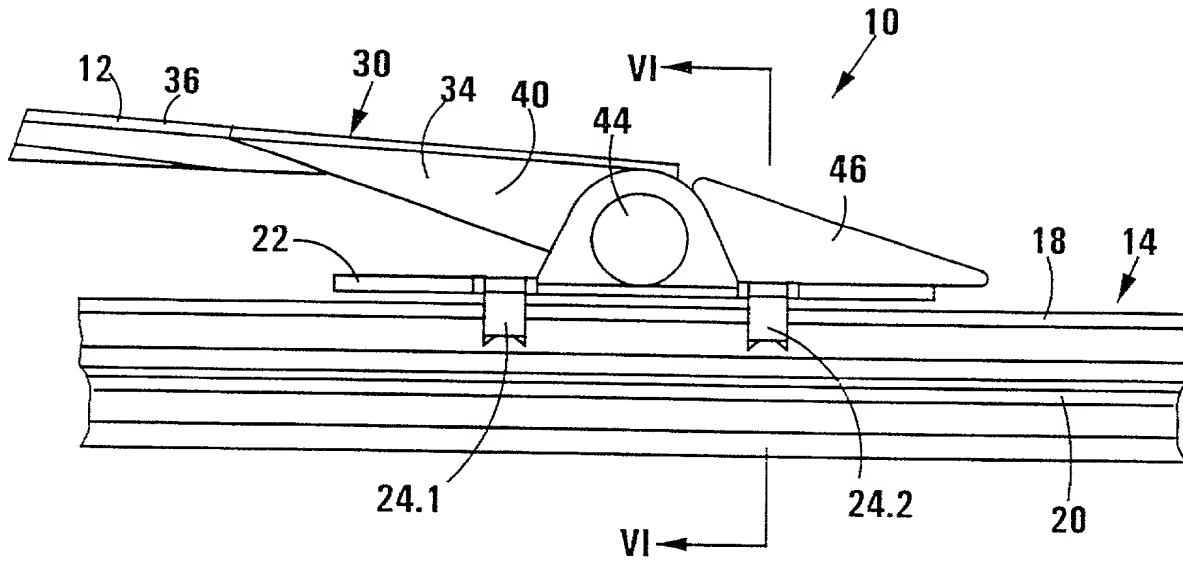


FIG 3

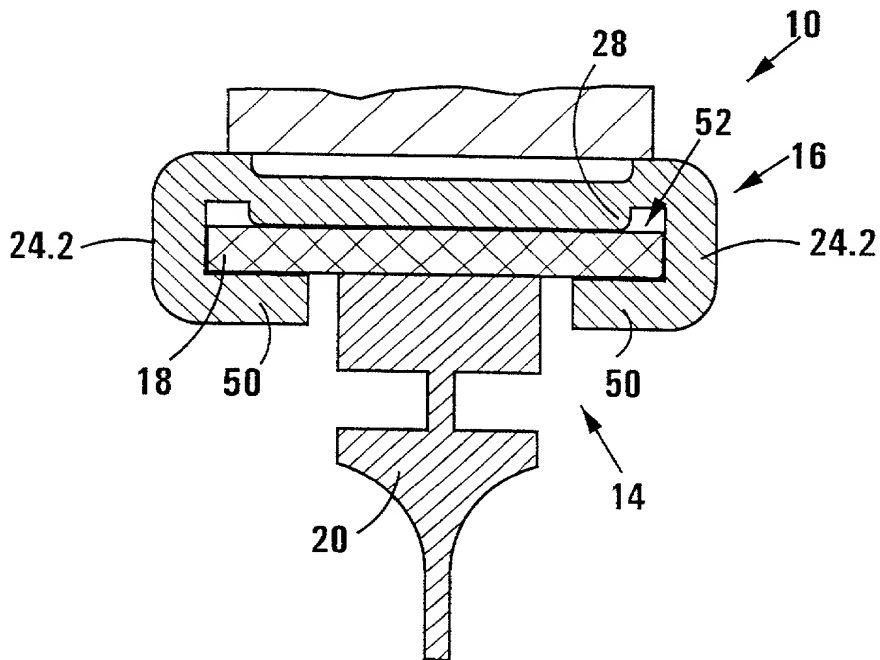


FIG 4

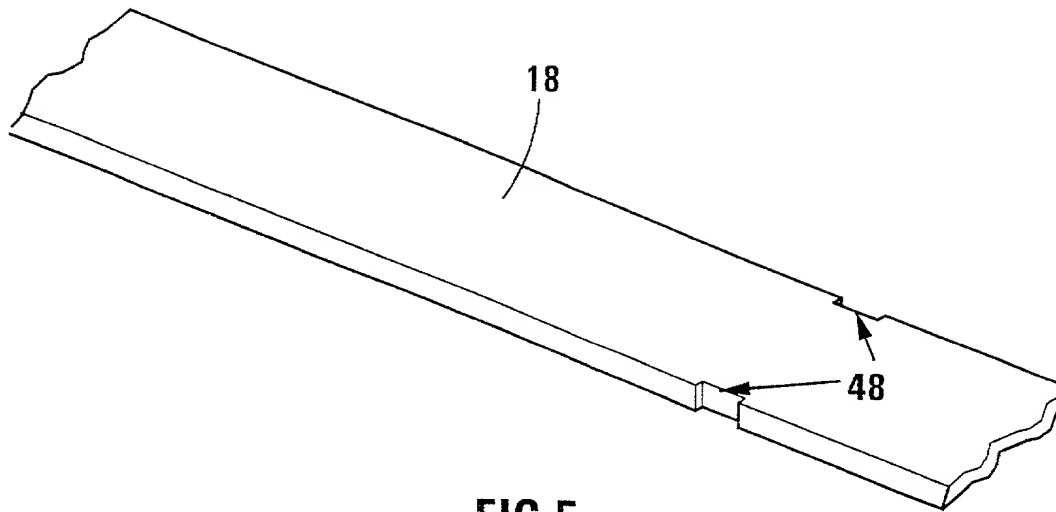


FIG 5

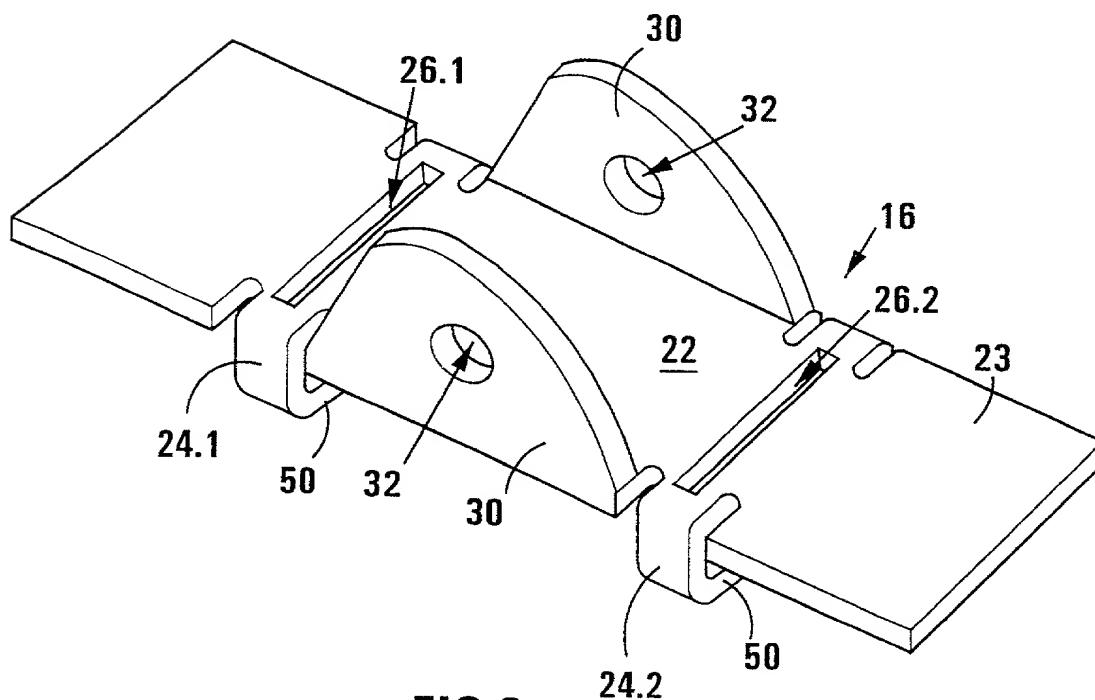


FIG 6

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FIG 2/30-FIG 6/30

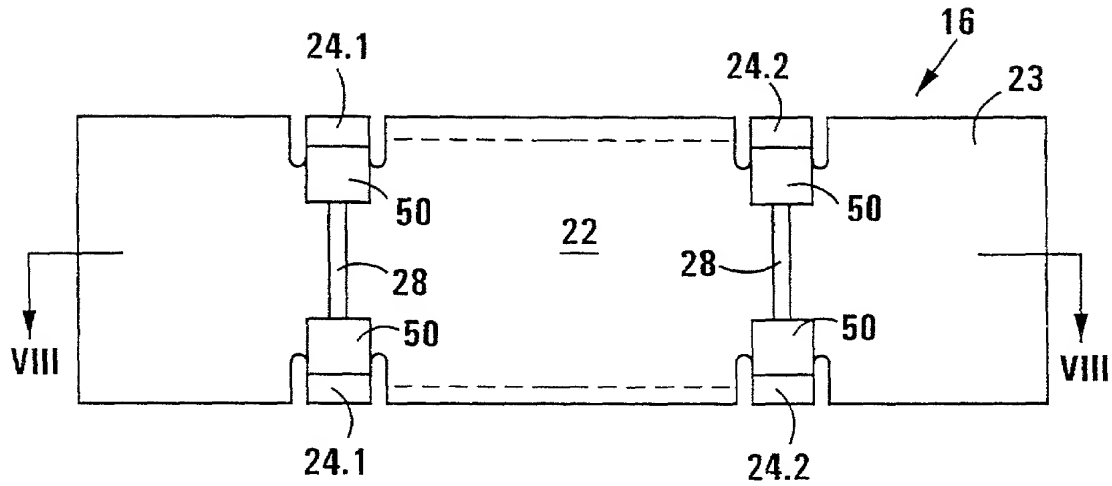


FIG 7

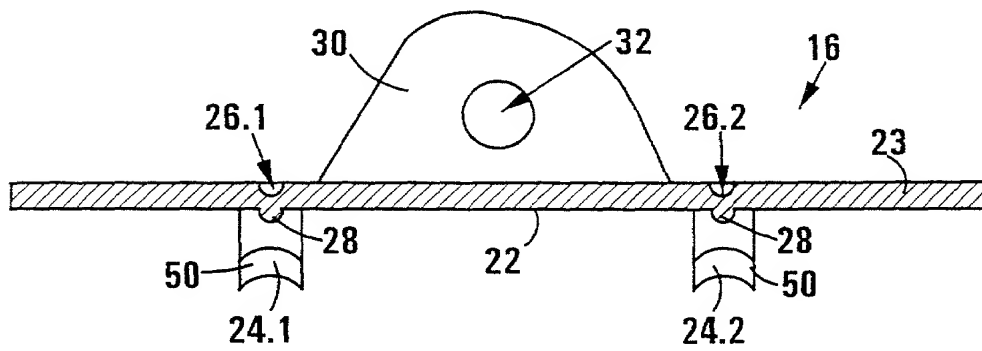


FIG 8

Docket No.
0182.00003

Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

English Language Declaration

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled
A WINDSCREEN WIPER

the specification of which

(check one)

☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on 23 September 1999 as United States Application No. or PCT International

Application Number PCT/IB99/01573

and was amended on 7 September 2000

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) or Section 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or Section 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Not Claimed

98/9282

South Africa

12 October 1998

☐

(Number)

(Country)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

PCT/IB99/01573

PCT

23 September 1999

☐

(Number)

(Country)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

☐

(Number)

(Country)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U. S. C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, C. F. R., Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)
(patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name and registration number)

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